

**Committee for a Better Environment
Davis Hall, College Park
September 22, 2014
7:00 PM**

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Suchitra Balachandran	X	
Gemma Evans	X	
Janis Oppelt	X	
Kennis Termini		X
Donna Weene	X	

Guests Present: Steve Beavers, City Liaison, Denise M. Palmer, Contract Secretary, Marcel Warfield, University of Maryland, Fred David, Tom Mooney

1. Review and approval 8/25/14 meeting minutes

Ms. Evans called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Ms. Oppelt made a motion to approve the edited minutes from the August 27th, 2014 meeting. Ms. Weene seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

2. Financial Report

Mr. Beavers presented the Financial Report to the committee and reported that CBE has expended 20% of its current budget. It is anticipated that by the middle of the fiscal year, CBE would have expended approximately half of its budget

3. Report by Mayor Fellows

Mayor Fellows reported on a company named Waste Zero. Ms. Balachandran brought Mayor Fellows up to date on CBE's involvement with Zero Waste and Pay As You Throw. Mayor Fellows and the committee discussed different options for discarding clothes and it was suggested that Dave Fellows at MOMs may be someone who may be interested in helping to spread the word about recycling since they were very excited about being involved in business recycling and working with CBE.

4. Ongoing Business

a. Rain Barrel workshop 9/20 – summary/review

Ms. Oppelt reported on the workshop and indicated there were 25 people in attendance including vendors. Carol Barth from the County gave the presentation. A new rain barrel has been installed at Davis Hall. If anyone is interested in obtaining a

rain barrel, Mr. Beavers suggested that they can contact one of the three vendors whom were present at the workshop.

b. Brochures

Ms. Oppelt wants to have copies of “Introducing CBE,” “Composting” and “Zero Waste” brochures available for use at College Park Day. The “Recycling” brochure needs to be updated also.

Ms. Oppelt inquired if the Green Awards would be held this year since the last one was held in 2012. Mr. Beavers reminded the committee that the Green Awards program is one of the Committees performance measures.

c. Permaculture Project (upcoming work days)

The upcoming dates for the Permaculture Project are Saturday, October 4, 2014 is for preparation; the planting is scheduled for October 11, 2014 and the rain date is scheduled for October 18, 2014. Ms. Oppelt inquired what type of tools will be required for the preparation work in terms of digging out the ground. Council Member Hew suggested contacting the Grounds Department at the University of Maryland for tools. Ms. Evans made a motion to spend up to \$100 for a total of \$200 for refreshments on both planting days. Ms. Oppelt seconded the motion and it was unanimous. The time for the preparation on October 4, 2014 is from 9:00 am. to 1:00 p.m. The planting location is along Rhode Island Avenue between Greenbelt and Tecumseh.

d. Business recycling (grants)

Ms. Evans reported that the application period for the recycling grant program has closed. The committee is examining methods to save money on recycling by joining a co-op or other alternatives. Ms. Evans reported that the committee is working on bringing the City code to match the County code.

e. College Park Day (volunteers, anything else needed?)

College Park Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 11am-3pm. Ms. Evans and Ms. Oppelt have volunteered to be on hand and Ms. Oppelt will pull together the brochures for the table. Ms. Evans suggested that they raffle off three rain barrels and for College Park residents only. She will bring one to set up for display.

5. New Business

CBE is currently requesting pictures of compost bins from College Park residents. Ms. Evans has received several and they will be put on the CBE website. They have been forwarded to Mr. Beavers. There will be discussion held over email to discuss naming a grant program in honor of Troy Ballard.

6. Other discussion

A recap of the following tasks include: Pictures should be sent to Mr. Beavers for the CBE website; Ms. Oppelt to send copy of “Zero Waste brochure” to the committee; 5 gallon jug for water and easel to be delivered to Ms. Oppelt for College

Park Day; everyone to recruit for volunteers; Ms. Oppelt to call Tony Barnes to see if the Boy Scouts can be recruited for assistance with ground preparation and planting for Permaculture Project; Mr. Beavers to contact Bob Stumpff for gloves for October 4, 2014 Permaculture date.

7. Next meeting date – 10/27/14

Ms. Evans discussed upcoming meeting dates with the committee. The fourth Monday in November is the week of Thanksgiving. December 22, 2014 is the week of Christmas. It was decided that December 8, 2014 is a good date for the combined November/December meeting. The committee agreed to postpone the November meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, October 27, 2014. The November meeting will be postponed until December 8, 2014 which will be a Pot Luck Dinner Meeting for November and December at 6:30pm. On January 26, 2015, the schedule returns to normal.

Ms. Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Weene and it was unanimous. The next meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2014 at Davis Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Denise M. Palmer, Contract Secretary

Minutes amended by Sheryl DeWalt, Contract Secretary on 10/28/14 at 3:40pm